

CLAIMS

1. A composition comprising at least one microorganism selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacterial and yeast strains that have an ability to decompose purines and an  
5 action of lowering serum uric acid level.

2. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is a serum uric acid level-lowering composition.

10 3. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of a food or beverage.

4. A composition according to Claim 3, wherein the composition is a fermented milk, a lactic acid bacteria beverage,  
15 a fermented vegetable beverage, a fermented fruit beverage, or a fermented soymilk.

5. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition is a pharmaceutical composition.

20 6. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the microorganism is a lactic acid bacterial strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus*.

25 7. A composition according to Claim 6, wherein the lactic acid bacterial strain is one member selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0185 (FERM BP-10004), *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0193 (FERM BP-10005), *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0195 (FERM BP-10006) and *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0223 (FERM BP-  
30 10007).

8. A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the microorganism is a yeast strain belonging to the genus *Saccharomyces*.

9. A composition according to Claim 8, wherein the yeast strain is *Saccharomyces* ONRIC y0046 (FERM BP-10008).

5 10. A lactic acid bacterial strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having an ability to decompose purines and an action of lowering serum uric acid level.

10 11. A lactic acid bacterial strain according to Claim 10, wherein the strain is *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0185 (FERM BP-10004), *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0193 (FERM BP-10005), *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0195 (FERM BP-10006) or *Lactobacillus* ONRIC b0223 (FERM BP-10007).

15 12. A yeast strain belonging to the genus *Saccharomyces* that has an ability to decompose purines and an action of lowering serum uric acid level.

20 13. A yeast strain according to Claim 12, wherein the strain is *Saccharomyces* ONRIC y0046 (FERM BP-10008).

25 14. A method for lowering a serum uric acid level comprising administering the composition defined in Claim 1 to a patient in need of a serum uric acid level lowering treatment.

30 15. A method for lowering a serum uric acid level comprising administering the lactic acid bacterial strain defined in Claim 10 to a patient in need of a serum uric acid level lowering treatment.

16. A method for lowering a serum uric acid level comprising administering the yeast strain defined in Claim 12 to a patient in need of a serum uric acid level lowering treatment.

35 17. Use of the composition defined in Claim 1 for

lowering serum uric acid level.

18. Use of the lactic acid bacterial strain defined in Claim 10 for preparing the composition defined in Claim 1.

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19. Use of the yeast strain recited in Claim 12 or 13 for preparing the composition defined in Claim 1.